**Garden State Children’s Book Awards Committee Meeting**

**January 15, 2016**

**Old Bridge Public Library**

**Minutes**

Present: Amy Behr, Jordan Bilodeau, Karen Bilton, Jenna Galley, Kathy Hackler, Nancy O'Grady, Audra Osorio, Ellen Pozzi, Betsy Quinn, Robin Rockman, Juley Rodwogin, Dana Skwirut, Vicki Wright

1. Welcome & Introductions

Ellen called the meeting to order at 10:05. Introductions were made.

Membership list was passed around asking for updates, etc.

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting, September 25, 2015

Juley motioned to approve. Jordan seconded. Motion approved.

1. Upcoming Meetings:
   1. February 19, 2016 (Snow Date 2/26,) - next meeting won't be at Old Bridge as originally planned. Ellen will announce location.

For the benefit for new members, Nancy described how the committee decides which books will be nominated for the list and which will not.

Morning Refreshment Volunteers: Kathy Hackler and Judith Everitt

4. Updates

a. NJLA/CSS Report – Amy reported that CSS will not be doing the New Librarian Toolkits this year. Instead they will hold an Early Literacy Training on Sept. 27 at Bridgewater Library. The next meeting – Jan. 29 at North Plainfield Library. Ellen listed the programs CSS accepted for NJLA conference. They are as follows: Pre-conference – *It's Always Been That Way: The Conundrum of Us Versus Them,* *NJ State Wide Summer Reading committee presents author Tim Green, “I Can't Sleep Mommy! There's a Book under My Bed!”: Darkness in Children's Literature,* *Special Olympics @ your library: How a young athletes program opens doors and minds in your community, ALSC's Notable (Outstanding! Important! Distinguished! Just Plain Great!) Children's Books, Rethinking Holidays and Celebrations in Libraries* and *The Garden State Book Awards Luncheon.*

- Horn Book Guide Access – Ellen explained the process in getting access.

- Budgeting and Ballot Printing – Ellen recommends cutting down on the number printed given the amount she has left over. Ellen described how votes are counted. Committee will have to decide at February meeting if we want to keep the same procedure with traditional and the new online voting.

- Conference: May 16-18, 2016 at Harrah’s Atlantic City

- NJLA GSBA Luncheon – We are in charge – keep in mind that Ellen is presenting right before the luncheon so others will have to volunteer to set up the luncheon.

-Working on getting Rita Williams-Garcia for luncheon speaker  
-Keynote speaker for Wednesday morning: Jay Asher

- GSCBA Table – As in years past, it will be primarily unstaffed.

* 1. NJASL ’15 Report – Kathy Hackler presented with Ellen, stated it was a great presentation.

5. GSCBA Winners and Citations

ER – winner – Fly Guy and the Frankenfly by Tedd Arnold.

Citation: Frankly, it comes as no surprizzz that the children of New Jersey once again chozzz Fly Guy as a reader's best friend. Thank you Tedd Arnold for bringing Fly Guy to life.

2nd place: I'm a Frog by Mo Willems

3rd place: Fancy Nancy: Too Many Tutus by Jane O'Connor

Fiction Series– Winner – Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck by Jeff Kinney

Citation: The children of New Jersey hit the jackpot when Greg rolled the dice to change his Hard Luck. Reading about Greg, his family and friends is never a gamble!

2nd place – The Last present by Wendy Mass

3rd place – Stink and the Freaky Frog Freakout by Megan McDonald

Fiction – Winner – Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein

Citation: To Chris Grabenstein, thank you for sharing this adventurous puzzle; with the perfect combination of humor and gaming, escaping from the library was the last thing the children of New Jersey wanted to do.

2nd place - Flora and Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo

3rd place - Nancy Clancy Sees the Future by Jane O'Connor

Nonfiction – Winner – The Animal Book: A Collection of the Fastest, Fiercest, Toughest, Cleverest, Shyest – and Most Surprising – Animals on Earth by Steve Jenkins

Citation: The children of New Jersey thank Steve Jenkins for enabling them to release their inner animals through his vibrant depictions of our furry, feathered, scaly and creepy crawly friends. It was a wild time!

2nd place – Electrical Wizard by Elizabeth Rusch

3rd place – Shimmer and Splash by Jim Arnosky

6. Promoting the Award and Voting – Ellen suggested pushing the deadline for submitting votes to mid-January instead of Jan. 1 to give people a chance to recover from holiday breaks, etc.

Ellen suggested the committee needs a social media manager for promote our efforts on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Audra volunteered. Ellen said no need to wait for committee leaders to prompt them to promote the award. All members should feel free to promote the award as desired including emailing to listservs.

7. Officers for 2015/2016 Committee – Call for volunteers!

a. Vice-chair (chair for 2016-2017)

b. Secretary

Ellen described the duties of each position and asked committee members to volunteer.

8. New Business – There was discussion about how to attract more attention from teachers. Kathy and Betsy talked about their experience with working with teachers. Betsy reminded the members of the lesson plans available which are aligned with the common core. Kathy will send Karen their NJASL presentation to be sent out to the group.

9. Around the Table

Ellen announced NJASL, William Paterson and NJLA are co-sponsoring an urban libraries summit on March 5.

Robin is doing a panel called Beyond CE on professional resources at NJLA and asked for suggestions for resources that people use to keep themselves up to date.

Ellen moved to adjourn the meeting at noon. Betsy seconded the motion.